



Standards & Assessment NOTES

California Department of Education
Jack O'Connell, State Superintendent of Public Instruction

September 2004

California High School Exit Examination (CAHSEE)

Upcoming Test Administration Deadlines

The first CAHSEE administration for the 2004-05 school year will be held September 21-22. The deadline for ordering test materials for this administration was July 28. The pre-identification (Pre-ID) deadline for this administration was August 18. Supplemental materials may be ordered through 3:00 p.m. on September 15. An order for supplemental materials may be placed only if initial materials were ordered prior to the July 28 deadline.

The deadline for ordering test materials for the November 16-17 administration of the CAHSEE is September 9 at 3:00 p.m. The Pre-ID deadline for this administration is October 13 at 3:00 p.m.

Only grade eleven and adult education students who have not already passed the CAHSEE are permitted to participate in the September and November administrations of the CAHSEE. Students may only retake the portion(s) (English-language arts or mathematics) of the examination they have not already passed.

Apportionment Clarification

2003-04 School Year

In November 2003, the State Board of Education (SBE) approved the following CAHSEE apportionments for the 2003-04 school year: (1) \$2.68 for each student who

tested on one or both portions of the CAHSEE and (2) \$0.32 for each answer document submitted with completed demographic information for students both tested and not tested. For the 2003-04 school year, school districts will receive these apportionments.

2004-05 School Year

This month, an item will go to the SBE to recommend a slight change in the CAHSEE apportionments for the 2004-05 school year. The following apportionments will be recommended: (1) \$3.00 for each student tested on one or both portions of the exam and (2) \$0.32 for each answer document submitted with completed demographic information only for grade ten students not tested during the census administration (February or March).

This change is being requested because the California Department of Education (CDE) requires school districts to submit student answer documents with completed demographic information for all grade ten students, tested or not tested, at the census administration (February or March). Because the CAHSEE is being used for the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 (NCLB) for high school, CDE requires an accurate enrollment count of all grade ten students at the time of testing in order to calculate Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP). School districts must test 95% of their grade ten students on the CAHSEE each year to meet AYP requirements. The apportionment of \$0.32 is to offset the costs of completing this demographic information for grade ten students who are not tested during

the census administration. School districts will not receive the apportionment of \$0.32 for any other students. The apportionment of \$3.00 for students tested will still apply.

Plans to Change the CAHSEE Apportionment Process

Beginning in the 2004-05 school year, CDE plans to change the apportionment process to make it similar to the process used for the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program. School districts will no longer need to submit apportionment reports after each CAHSEE administration.

CDE will develop an apportionment form for each school district that will include the apportionments due to the school district for each CAHSEE administration it conducted during the prior year. CDE will send school districts a report to certify the accuracy of the numbers in the fall of each year beginning in 2005 for the 2004-05 school year.

Definition of “Medical Emergency”

CAHSEE results for grade ten students are being used for the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) federal accountability purpose. Federal guidelines for assessments used for NCLB state that “States do not have to include a student with a significant medical emergency in the participation rate calculation.” States are to define medical emergency.

CDE will propose a definition to the SBE this month, for approval to add to the CAHSEE regulations. If approved, this definition will be sent out for public review before being adopted. The February, March, and May test manuals will contain information on how to code answer documents for students who are absent because of a significant medical emergency, and the test manuals will contain the definition adopted by the SBE.